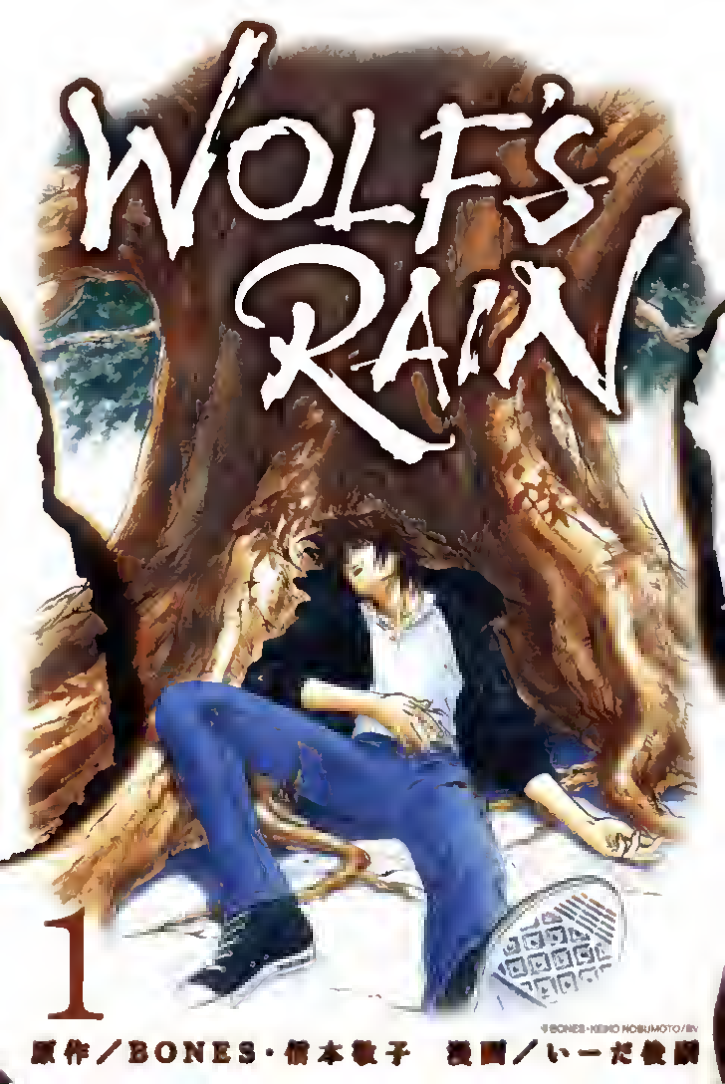


原作／BONES・信本敬子　漫画／いーだ敏訓

"Paradise"

There's no way

something like that exists.

This place that I struggled on to reach,

led by the scent of the flowers, too,

is still far away from Paradise.

WOLF'S RAIN

"Paradise"
There's no way something like that exists.

THEREAFTER, IT'S A CITY THAT ONLY CONTINUES TO DECAY...
grope.1 Temporary Residence
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S A DOG.
A DAMN HUGE ONE.
WONDER IF WE CAN SELL IT FOR A GOOD PRICE
WHO KNOWS? IT'S BARELY BREATHING THOUGH
WELL THEN, LET'S EAT IT?
Kuhuhu
!

TSUME?
THAT'S NOT A DOG.
HUH?
DRAG IT OUT.
OPEN

TAP
TAP
TAP
REAR
UGH...
AHH!
AH!
ACK!
DAMN IT!
Kang
GAKYU
Gyu
Kacha

RIP
THUD
UHG...

!
IF I DON'T KILL IT, IT'S GOING TO KILL ME!
..... NO!
I-IT'S LOOKING AT ME!
!!
DON

POUND
....!?!
TSUME
GLANCE
turns
Slowly

LEAP
.. YOU SURE HAVE DONE IT.
...YOU ALL RIGHT, GEL?
...I WAS ONLY PROTECTING MYSELF
RULES? LIKE TEAMING UP WITH HUMANS, HUH?
BUT IN A CITY, THERE ARE RULES
I DON'T KNOW WHERE THE HELL YOU CAME FROM.

EVEN HAVING TO HIDE YOUR OWN APPEAR-ANCE TO DECEIVE THEM
THEY WERE THE ONES WHO ARE MISTAKEN
I'M SIMPLY USING THEM
...WHAT ROTTEN RULES

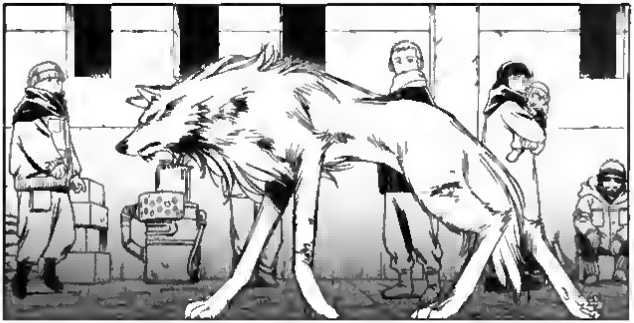
.... YOU SURE TALK BIG FOR BEING TIRED AND INJURED
THE PRIDE OF A WOLF TOO,
ROTTED AWAY WITH THE CITY
GO BACK AND LICK YOUR COMRADES' WOUNDS.
YOU!
CLACK
SHEAR

!
WHAT'S WRONG, BLUE?
DOCTOR DEGRE, CHEZA'S

THEY'RE HERE
...VERY CLOSE.
Tap
Tap
Tap
Tap
TSUME. !
step
Tap
Tap
Tap
...THEY'VE COME TO PICK YOU UP

TSUME!
WHERE IS IT?!
TSUME, ARE YOU OK—
Y..
DON'T TOUCH ME
YOU'RE BLEED-ING.
THANKS
..FOR CHASING IT AWAY
..I—I THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULDN'T CARE IF ANY OF YOUR COMRADES WERE KILLED
—THEY AREN'T MY COMRADES.
HUH?

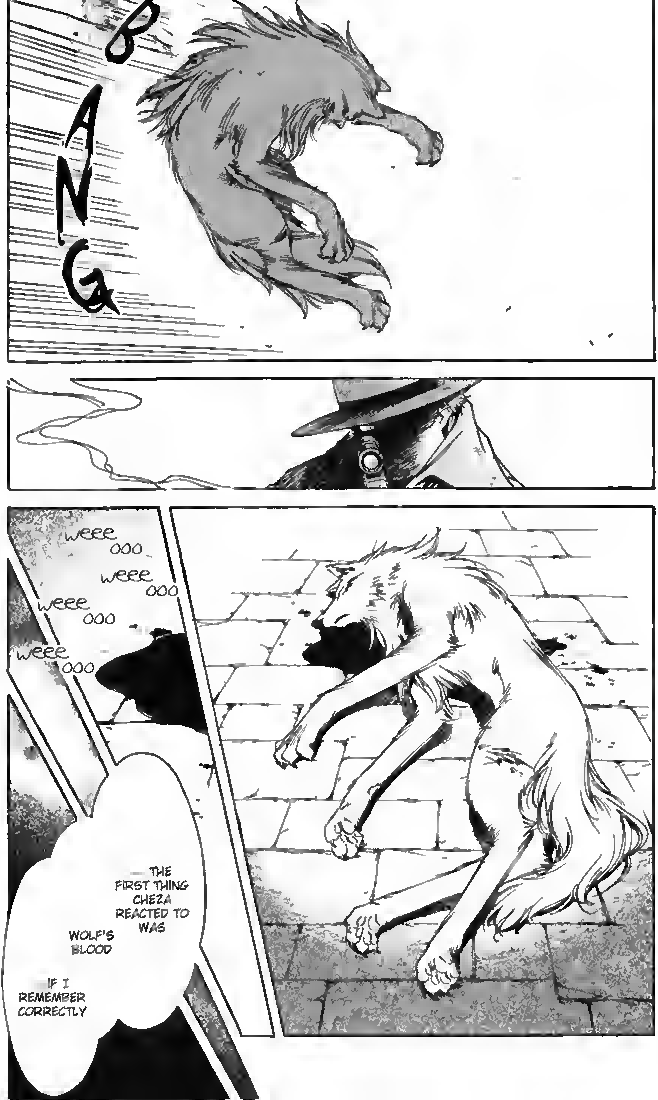
...THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS PARADISE...



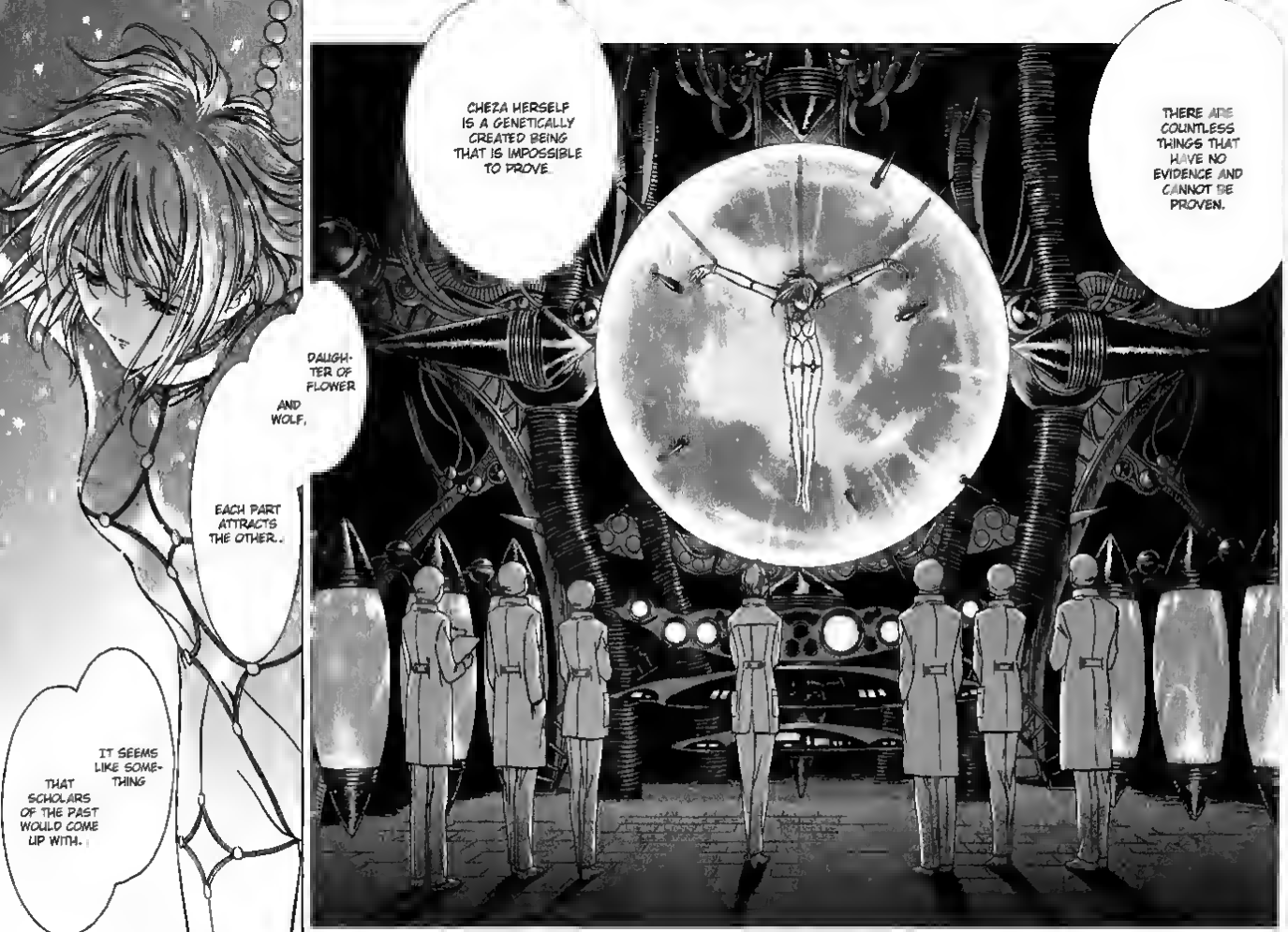
BUT...THIS IMPULSE THAT'S STIRRING UP INSIDE ME.....WHAT IS IT?!

GRRRR.
WELL DONE, BLUE.
BANG!
I FINALLY FOUND YOU.
THE FIRST "WOLF"
SINCE I'VE COME HERE

DEATH'S MESSENGER!
THE ONE TO BE MOURNED...


BANG
weee ooo
weee ooo
weee ooo
weee ooo
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY
WOLF'S BLOOD
THE FIRST THING CHEZA REACTED TO WAS

YES
SHE SHOWED REACTION UPON SMELLING WOLF'S BLOOD... ACCORDING TO THE DATA LEFT BEHIND
...IN THAT CASE
IT PROBABLY MEANS ANOTHER WOLF HAS APPEARED...
HOWEVER DOCTOR
THE WOLF WAS ALREADY...
YES...
EVEN THAT DATA HAS NO FIRM EVIDENCE
BUT


IT SEEMS LIKE SOMETHING THAT SCHOLARS OF THE PAST WOULD COME UP WITH.
DAUGHTER OF FLOWER AND WOLF,
EACH PART ATTRACTS THE OTHER..
CHEZA HERSELF IS A GENETICALLY CREATED BEING THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PROVE.
THERE ARE COUNTLESS THINGS THAT HAVE NO EVIDENCE AND CANNOT BE PROVEN.

IT ALSO APPEARS THAT YOU HAVE A LITTLE ALCOHOL IN YOUR SYSTEM.
YOU WEREN'T EXACTLY SANE AT THE TIME, I PRESUME
. . . TO THINK YOU WOULD FIRE A HUNTING GUN IN THE MIDDLE OF A CITY
THAT GUY
THE ONE I SHOT DOWN
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM?
WHAT IS CURIOUS'S POLICE OFFICER DOING AT A PLACE LIKE THIS?
QUENT YAIDEN
!
... WE WILL DEAL WITH THE DOG'S CORPSE.

BESIDES
THERE'S NO REASON HE COULD HAVE DIED SO EASILY...
RIDICULOUS.
THAT IS FAR FROM A DOG
THAT IS...
...IS
I can smell the bear.
RATTLE
FAH
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
200 YEARS AFTER THEY DISAPPEARED...
THESE DAYS, WITH THE MOUNTAINS AND THE FORESTS DESTROYED, IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO ASSUME THEY'VE GONE EXTINCT
WHAT ARE YOU... ARE YOU SAYING THAT THAT THING IS A WO--
EXACTLY
200 YEARS AFTER EXTINC-TION...?
...THEY'RE
STILL ALIVE.

CONFOUND OUR HUMAN EYES
USING THEIR ABILITES TO
STANDING BESIDES US
STILL BREATHING STEADILY
THEY AREN'T DOGS!
SCRAPE
UNMISTAKABLY
SCRAPE

WOLF
...
HEEEEY
ARE YOU ALIVE---?

THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN ONE GET CAPTURED LIKE THAT
...HEHEH
I JUST SMELT SOMETHING FUNNY WAS GOING TO HAPPEN
NO REASON
... WHY ARE YOU IN THIS KIND OF PLACE
QUIETLY!
... I JUST WANTED TO REST
... YOU ALREADY REALIZED THAT THAT WOULD ATTRACT TOO MUCH ATTENTION, RIGHT?
WHY CAN'T WE BE IN OUR TRUE FORMS?
... YOU TOO, HUH
!
SOMEONE IS COMING

'CUZ WE'RE "TERROR" TO THEM
...AND WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
PRIDE . EH?
YOU'RE INTER-ESTING
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I'M CALLED HIGE BY THE WAY
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY PRIDE AS A WOLF?!
TELL ME YOUR NAME
I SUPPOSE PRIDE IS IMPORTANT, TOO
BUT IF YOU KEEP THAT OBSTINACY UP
I UNDERSTAND REALLY

TO LIVE ON AS A WOLF.
I, ON THE OTHER HAND, AM DOING THIS SO I WON'T DIE.
AND DIE NOW, IT WOULD BE MEANINGLESS FOR YOU, RIGHT?

BY SURVIVING,
IF I CAN PROTECT MY PRIDE THAT YOU SPEAK OF
I MUST USE IT
DON'T YOU THINK?
AS A WOLF
TO SURVIVE.
TODAY ALL THE ARISTOCRATIC FAMILIES FOOD SUPPLY WILL PASS THROUGH THE INSPECTION POINT
THE LAST CONFIRMATION
CHEN AND SEDO WILL BE THE VANGUARDS-
LI LIN, TSUME.
ARE WE GOING TO DO IT AS WE PLANNED TODAY, TOO?

. HMMM
THE SECURITY AT THAT PLACE INCREASED AFTER WE FAILED LAST WEEK
AFTER THE BATTLE WITH THE ARMORED CARGO YESTERDAY,
WE GOT EVERYTHING, BUT WE ALSO ENDED UP WITH A LOT OF INJURIES OURSELVES
—TH, THAT'S RIGHT
AND TODAY— ONE GOT KILLED BY THAT DOG.
AND TSUME IS INJURED TOO—
IF YOU DON'T MIND HAVING NO FOOD
BUT THAT'LL JUST MEAN THE COWARDS GET NO SHARE

Pinch
GEL..
READY READY
HERE
RIGHT
NOT THAT I'M SAYING -- WE'RE NOT GOING--
OR SOMETHIN'
YOU'RE OUR BACKUP.
WE DON'T NEED ANY COWARDS
THEY'LL ONLY DRAG US BEHIND

grope.2
Key to Paradise

... I WILL...
GO TOO... WITH YOU...
I WON'T BECOME A BURDEN
...I PROMISE

TAP TAP TAP
THIS PLACE IS LIKE, ALWAYS
... GIVING US ABSOLUTELY NO TIME TO REST.
SO..
WHAT ABOUT THAT MAN?
HE WAS PRETTY DRUNK AND AND DIDN'T SAY MUCH. SO WE LET HIM GO HOME
EXCEPT HE KEPT INSISING THAT THAT DOG THAT ATTACKED HIM...
BEEP BEEP
WHAT?
... IT'S A DUTY CALL.
THIS TOWN IS DANGEROUS.
IT'S PROBABLY ANOTHER BAND OF THEIVES MAKING TROUBLE.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
NOW'S THE ONLY CHACNE YOU'VE GOT.
YOU CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS CONFUSION AND LEAVE HERE.

HE KEPT INSISTING THAT IT WAS A WOLF AND WON'T BELIEVE ANYTHING OTHER THAN THAT.
HIC
♪

WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK? COULD IT POSSIBLY BE HALF?
...CHER, DON'T ASK ME, THAT'S THE REASON I CALLED YOU FOR.

!!?
WELL, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH HE'S NOT GOING TO LET ME CONFIRM...

... OH, I FORGOT, YOU WERE ALLERGIC TO DOGS.
I TRY NOT TO GET NEAR THEM IF I CAN HELP IT.

EH?
!?
H-HEY, YOU, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE WO... DOG HERE!?

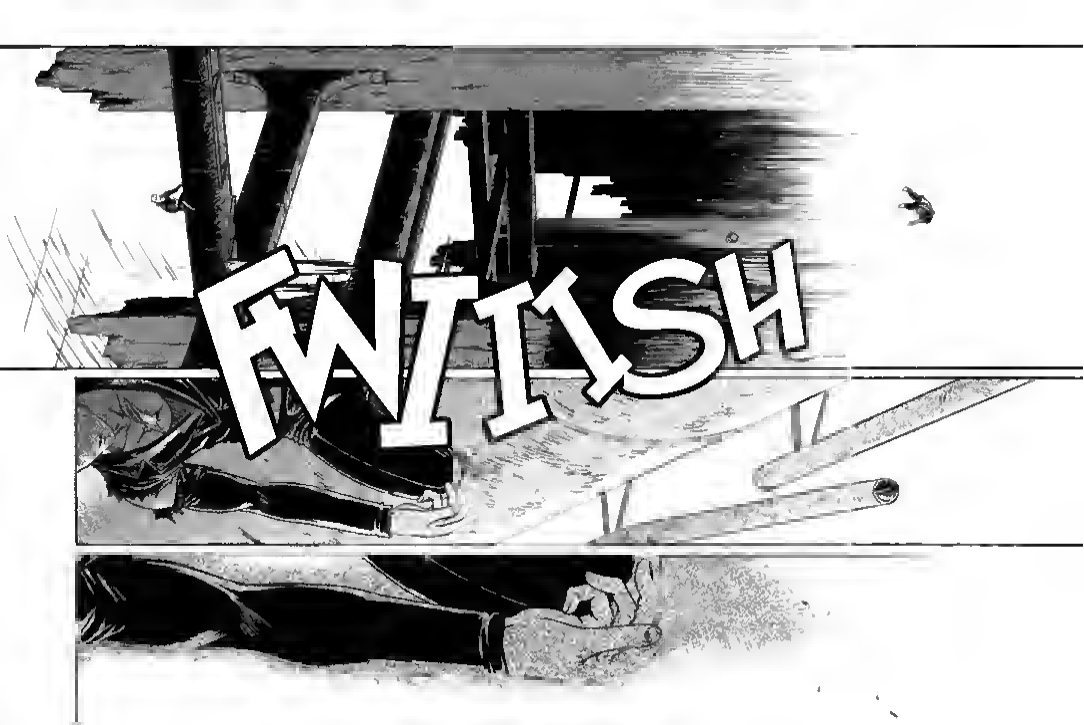
IT'S A VERY DUBIOUS STORY...
WOLVES WHO WERE SUPPOSE TO HAVE GONE EXTINCT 200 YEARS AGO ARE NOW... ONCE AGAIN ..
...YET
THAT MIGHT BE THE PROOF ABOVE ALL ELSE
SUPPOSE CHEZA REALLY WOKE UP... THEN...
grope.2 Key to Paradise

IN THE NORTH TOWN, A WOLF HAS SUPPOSEDLY APPEARED.
... I SEE.
... THE DAUGHTER OF FLOWER, ... HAS SHE AWAKENED YET?
YES.
IT APPEARS SO, DARCIA-SAMA.
BRATTA
BRATTA
BRATTA
BRATTA
BRATTA
BRATTA

FWP
AH!
KA-BOOM
KATAKATA
I...
I'M SORRY...
AH, TSUME...

FINISH

WAAAAAA
!!


FWISH

IT'S A WASTE OF POWER TO KEEP THEM SUPPRESSED.
SEE? WE ESCAPED WITHOUT TROUBLE, RIGHT?
S
..SO, WHY DID YOU COME TO THIS TOWN?
.....
RIGHT ?
I HAVE A FANG THAT CAN BEND STEEL CELLS LIKE THE ONES YOU WERE BEHIND.
AND MY NOSE IS TWICE AS STRONG AS A HUMAN'S.
AND? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?
...BECAUSE OF THE SENT...
...OF THE FLOWER?
!

. DO YOU KNOW ABOUT PARADISE?
PARA-DISE?
I CAN HEAR... VOICES... CALLING TO ME...
—AIM FOR PARADISE—
HMM...
TOWARDS THE SCENT OF THE MOON'S FLOWER—
.. PARADISE, EH—
SOUNDS INTEREST-ING.
AH, YOU STILL HAVEN'T TOLD ME YOUR NAME.
I'M...
...
...*KIBA*.

roll roll
oh
oh
DROP
IT'S OKAY.
YOU CAN HAVE IT.
REALA!
I'M COMING!

DON'T PLAY WITH WILD DOGS.
I'M SORRY.
WE CAN'T KEEP YOU.
BYE BYE!
LOOK,
HE'LL GET USED TO YOU FEEDING HIM AND WILL JUST BECOME A BURDEN
...
HMM...
I GOT BEAT OUT BY CROWS...
WHAT AM I DOING?
CAW

IF I STAY IN MY HUMAN FORM,
WILL I GET TO MEET THAT GIRL AGAIN?
EVEN SO..
MOST LIKELY
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE TOGETHER FOREVER.
..WHY?
..WHY AM I HERE?
THAT ARTISTO-CRAT FAMILY...
THEY'RE OFFERING REWARDS FOR THE CAPTURE OF THE THIEVES
SEVERAL PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY BEEN CAPTURED,
AND WE COULD BE NEXT.
MAYBE WE SHOULD GET OUT OF TOWN

THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE SAYING
TSUME
FOLLOW YOUR LEADERSHIP
WE CAN'T ANYMORE.
FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ABANDONED THEM AND RAN,
...GEH...
...COMRADES...
YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
.....

DOCTOR DEGRE,
PHONE FOR YOU.
WHO FROM?
IT'S YOUR HUSBAND
AH
E-EX-HUS-BAND..
I MEAN.
FROM INSPECTOR RIBOWSKY..
snap
PLEASE STATE YOUR BUSINESS
...CHER... I THINK WE CAN LEAVE OUT OUR TITLES BUT....
..ONE OF THE THEIVES MAKING TROUBLE AT THE FOOD STORAGE LAST NIGHT
FELL FROM THE ROOF WHILE MAKING HIS GETAWAY AND.
..HE'S IN OUR CUSTODY RIGHT NOW BUT..

ON HIS ARM... THERE'S A RELATIVELY FRESH BITE MARK LEFT THAT LOOKS LIKE ITS FROM A DOG.
... I HAVE NEWS TOO.
WHAT?
IT'S ABOUT THE DOG HAIRS GATHERED IN THE CELL AND AROUND THAT AREA
THERE WERE TWO TYPES.
SEPERATE... FROM THE WHITE DOG YOU FOUND
SO, IS THERE ANY INFORMATION ON THAT DOG?
...NO...
THEY'RE STILL ALIVE...
USING ABILITIES THAT PROBABLY WOULD ASTOUND OUR HUMAN EYES...
WASN'T IT A BIG DOG?
I WONDER WHY IT HASN'T BEEN SPOTTED YET...
... HUBB? ... ARE YOU THERE ?

WHOA
OOPS
!
...!
Y-
YOU...
AH!
...UNBE-
LIEVABLE.
THIS IS
THE FIRST
TIME I'VE
EVER MET
ANOTHER
WOLF.
AH, I'M
CALLED
TOBOE.
YOU'RE
TSUME,
RIGHT?
I'VE
HEARD THE
RUMORS
SPREADED
BY THE
CROWS
THAT YOU'RE
LEADING
HUMANS
AND CREAT-
ING RIOTS
I'M
AMAZED-
SHUT
UP.

I GET PISSED OFF JUST BY LOOKING AT KIDS LIKE YOU.
DON'T FOLLOW ME.
HEY... KID...

ARE YOU STILL HIDING BEHIND HUMAN EYES?
YOU BRAT!
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY FROM ME THAT WAY!

JUST BECAUSE OF A STORY ABOUT A KID THAT FELL AND DIED.
..THAT GUY PISSES ME OFF.
HE'S TARGETING WOLVES ..
WE CAN'T FOLLOW YOUR LEADERSHIP ANYMORE
FOR THOSE WHO ABANDON THEIR COMRADES AND RUN
COMRADES ?
WORTHLESS
FAMILIAR RELATIONS ARE
SO FUCKIN' FAKE.

WOLVES ALIKE.
HUMANS AND
HOP

KSHF
RUN!
EH!?
HURRY UP!
.....!
PTAH!
KUH...

gun
CHIE
PA
PA
PAPA
I WONDER WHO HE WAS.
THAT GUY WITH THE BLACK COAT...
... AND THE BLACK DOG.
MAN.
TO THINK, GUYS LIKE THAT ARE HANGING AROUND HERE

I TOLD YOU NOT TO FOLLOW ME.
EH?
YOU
I NEVER EXPECTED YOU WOULD COME BACK FOR ME.
ANYHOW, THANKS
...
WE...
WE JUST HAPPEN TO BE GOING THE SAME WAY.
WHAT?
EH?
. HIGE, WHAT'S THAT?
Snatched from a street vendor

YEAH.
THE NOBEL'S FAMILY FORTRESS IS OVER THE WALL.
IT'S...
IT'S GOING TOWARDS THE SCENT OF THE MOON'S FLOWER.
IF ONLY THEY HAD NOSES THEY'RE THEIR OWN COMMER-ADES.
AH-
THAT'S PROBABLY THE NOBEL'S FAMILLY SHIP
I COULDN'T GET A FOOT INSIDE.
I WENT THERE ONCE, LURED BY THE SCENT BUT ..
...
EH?
NEH?
WH-
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
... I HAVE A BAD FEELING.
KIBA?

ZAP
'EY!
YOUR WOUNDS HAVEN'T EVEN HEALED YET!
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO RECK-LESS?
WHAT HAP-PENED?
I DON'T KNOW. THE POWER SUD-DENLY...
THE LAB...? WHAT IS IN THERE?
IT'S NOT LIKE I'VE ACTUALLY SEEN IT WITH MY OWN EYES...
THEY'RE ALL JUST STORIES I EVASDROPPED FROM PEOPLE THERE...
CREAK
KICHI

TA
IN THERE
A FLOWER OF THE MOON WAS BORN
A GIRL NAMED CHECA ACCORDING TO THE STORY
DON'T WORRY...
THE MAIN POWER SOURCE IS INDEPENDENT HERE.
I KNOW.

...CHEZA
ISN'T NECESSARY FOR YOU ANYMORE,
...RIGHT?
WHO...
EVERYONE IS RESTING RIGHT NOW...
EVEN YOU...

SHOULD...
REST A LITTLE...
GLARE
THUD
...LONG TIME NO SEE... CHEZA.

Hah
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
...DO YOU KNOW?
MY FIGURE'S NOT SUPPOSED TO APPEAR IN YOUR EYES?
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
YOU'VE ALREADY AWAKENED.
THUMP
THUMP

IT'S BEEN A WHILE... CHEZA.
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
FINALLY. WE CAN START OUR JOURNEY.

Breaking Away from the Citadel
grope.3

KIBA!
HEY, WAIT UP,
IT'S POINTLESS TO GET ANY FURTHER THAN THIS
What the?!
THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN BREAK IN...?!
!!?
AH, WOLVES.
SEEMS THAT YOU'VE HELPED AWAKEN CHEZA.

I SHALL TAKE THE LUNAR FLOWER MAIDEN WITH ME.
YOU HAVE MY GRATITUDE.

...CHEZA?
SO THAT'S... CHEZA?

Uh
!?
!
WHOAAAARGH!
...LET'S MEET UP IN PARADISE.

...IF WE EVER DO MEET
KNEW ABOUT PARADISE
.....
HE'S GONE...
...THAT MAN

grope.3 Breaking Away from the Citadel

DID YOU HEAR IT TOO, TSUME?!
...
...AH... IT'S GONE...
WONDER WHAT THAT WAS ABOUT... IT WAS SUCH...
SUCH A PITIFUL VOICE ..
. PROBABLY JUST THE MACHINES
SOME PIECE OF JUNK CHUGGING IN AGONY
WHATEVER.
WHY THE HECK DID YOU FOLLOW ME ALL THE WAY HERE?
...

HEY, IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO JOIN...
THERE'S NO SUCH THING
HUH?
...IS THIS YOUR GANG'S HIDEOUT, TSUME?
WITH THE NOBLES OFFERING REWARDS FOR THEIR CAPTURE
THE WHOLE LOT FLED TOWN
OH... OKAY...
WHAT... WHAT ABOUT YOU, TSUME?
LOOK FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO BE YOUR PLAYMATE
I'M STAYING HERE.
HAVING PALS ONLY MAKES YOU GLOOMY.
I GET IT.
YOU ONLY TEAM UP WITH HUMANS.

BUT THEN, YOU WOULD'VE LEFT ME ALONE BACK THERE.
JUST NOW...
THAT VOICE WASN'T THE SOUND MADE BY MACHINES
IT MUST'VE GIVEN YOU THAT SAD FEELING
CRUNCH
WHAT A SELF-CENTERED LIAR YOU ARE TSUME
GRIP
AREN'T THEY NOISY
CAN'T THEY JUST CALM DOWN AND HAVE A SWIG OF LIQUOR?

SHOULD WE GET GOING TOO, BLUE?
TO HUNT DOWN THOSE WOLVES MISTAKEN FOR AND
PRETENDING TO WALK LIKE HUMANS.

WE HAVE SECURED A BOY SUSPECTED TO BE THE LOWEST RANKING MEMBER OF THE BAND OF THIEVES.
SEVERAL MORE MAY STILL BE LURKING IN THE VICINITY.
THE YOUNG MAN WHO APPEARS TO BE THEIR LEADER HAS NOT BEEN SIGHTED.
EXTRACT INFORMATION FROM THE BOY IN CUSTODY.
OH, WELL. NOT LIKE HE COULD ESCAPE ANYWAY.

IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE WE SWEEP THE TRASH CLEAN.
SED...
DID YOU SELL ME OUT THE MOMENT YOU GOT CAUGHT, I WONDER

HMPH, HUMANS.
THE SIREN'S BLARING ALL OVER TOWN
I GUESS THEY'RE ALL AFTER TSUME AND CO
!
!!
THAT BLACK DOG...
URK.
I CAN'T OUTRUN HER...
MOVE IT.

GO!
..
UH!!
AGAIN.
.....
!!
TSUME!!

TSUME CAME TO MY RESCUE AGAIN!
...CRAP!
IT'S HER
YOU CAN'T
EVEN THE GUY IN THE TRENCH COAT'S HERE
NOT ANYMORE
YOU CAN'T STAY IN THIS PLACE ANYMORE, TSUME!
WHOA?!

IS THAT HIM, KIBA?
YEAH, HE'S THE FELLA WHO SHOT ME
SHH...
KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN
WHOA.
WHY IS IT SO DARK...?
YO, BUDDY
HE'S HOT ON YOUR TAIL, TOO?
OH!
NOT YOU GUYS, TOO.!
THAT DANGEROUS OL' MAN'S ON THE PROWL,
AND THAT EAR-SPLITTING SIREN WON'T STOP RINGING
WHAT'S THIS PLACE TURNING INTO?
OUR CLUE HAS BEEN STOLEN FROM RIGHT UNDER UNDER OUR VERY NOSES.
NO POINT STAYING HERE
LET'S HURRY UP KIBA
?! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
OUT OF TOWN.
YOU COMING?
THEY'LL GET'CHA IF YOU BOGGLE, KIDDO

DON'T CALL ME KIDDO! MY NAME'S TOBOE!
YEAH, OK.
HEY, IF WE'RE LEAVING THIS TOWN, LET'S TAKE TSUME
I'M HIGE.
HE'S KIBA
? TSUME?
HEY, DON'T STOP WITHOUT WARNING, KIBA.
YUP, THAT'S TSUME!
IS HE THE GUY WITH A SCAR ON HIS CHEST?
... UM, KIBA, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
The exit's way ahead, y'know?
BUT, WHERE'RE YOU HEADED AFTER LEAVING TOWN?

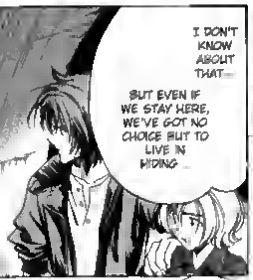
PARADISE.
... AND THE BOY?
I DON'T KNOW, SIR. WE TRACKED HIM DOWN,
BUT WE ONLY FOUND AN EXHAUSTED BLACK DOG AND
ANOTHER BIG DOG THAT WAS RUNNING AWAY....

WE HAVE GOTTEN HOLD OF THE GANG LEADER'S WHEREABOUTS.
THE LOCATION IS NEAR GATE XIII.
IT'S FINALLY QUIETED DOWN, COMING DOWN HERE.
THE EXIT'S A BREATH AWAY NOW.
KIBA?
WHAT'S WRONG?
IS SOMEONE THERE?

!
TSUME!
EH?
THIS GUY?
... YOU..!
WHAT?!
I SNIFFED OUT YOUR BLOOD
ALL THE WAY HERE FROM TOWN.
SO YOU'RE HERE TO LAUGH ABOUT MY INJURY OR SOMETHING?
TSUME!
OH, UM...

COME WITH US
LET'S LEAVE TOWN TOGETHER.

AND WHERE ARE WE, A PACK OF WOLVES, SUPPOSED TO GO?
PARADISE..


I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT...
BUT EVEN IF WE STAY HERE, WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO LIVE IN HIDING...

...WHAT A JOKE.
DON'T TELL ME WE'LL BE GOING BY THAT TALE.

SEEMS TO BE THE CASE TO ME
YEAH, HERE IN THIS TOWN,

WE JUST CAN'T LIVE TOGETHER WITH HUMANS.

NOTHING'S PULLING US BACK.
PUT THAT FLOWER IS NO LONGER HERE.
WASN'T IT BECAUSE YOU WERE FOLLOWING THE SCENT OF THE LUNAR FLOWER?
...GUYS,
WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN THIS TOWN?

I THOUGHT YOUR PRIDE WAS AGAINST PASSING OFF AS A HUMAN?
WHERE'S YOUR PRIDE GONE TO NOW?
NOWHERE NOTHING'S CHANGED
WHOA!

IT'S A NATURAL THING TO DIE OR GET KILLED.
!
YOU'RE ONLY DELIVERING YOURSELF TO DEATH BY GETTING OUTTA TOWN.
...
...THANKS.
BETTER TH N LIVING A LIFE WITH NO PURPOSE.
...
...HURRY UP AND LEAVE.
...
...URK!

ARE YOU REALLY NOT GOING?
LATCH
TSU-MEEE!

WHOA!
C'MON!
TSUME

WHOOSH!
.....!

A QUEST FOR THE NON-EXISTENT PARADISE? ...MY ASS.
...
CUT THE CRAP
...
SCARED?

IT SO HAPPENS JUST THAT I'VE GOTTEN SICK OF THIS TOWN.
THAT'S IT.

grope.4
The Lone Castle

SO THEY ESCAPED ALL TOO NICELY.
TAKING ON HUMAN APPEARANCE, SCATTERING YOU COPS AND RUNNING OFF
THAT'S THOSE BASTARDS' TRUE COLORS

BOPOTA
NORMAL DOGS... THEN?
HMPH, WHAT-EVER
... THEY'RE NOT NECES-SARILY WOLVES.

SOON, YOU'LL WANT TO GO AFTER THEM, TOO.
ANYONE INVOLVED WITH 'EM WOLVES
WON'T BE ABLE TO ESCAPE THEIR FATE.
I'LL EVEN GO TO THE ENDS OF EARTH.
UNTIL

SFX WHOOSH
EVERY HEAD BELONGING TO THOSE WOLVES
IS HUNTED DOWN.
grope.1 The Lone Castle
...I'M HUNGRY.
..YEAH, ME TOO...
MAN.. HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE WE HAD ANYTHING TO EAT..?
...
..LET'S SEE.. AROUND 6 DAYS, MAYBE...?
THIS IS THE LONGEST TRIP EVER.

SFX: WHOOSH
SHUT THE HELL UP. IT'S ONLY BEEN 6 DAYS
...IF WE BATHE IN THE MOONLIGHT, WE CAN KEEP GOING FOR SOME TIME

THAT'S HOW I TRAVELED FOR ONE WHOLE MONTH.
...ONE MONTH...
...WHEN THE TIME COMES, WE CAN EAT ONE ANOTHER IN TURNS.
THE FIRST IN LINE WOULD BE THE WEAK HALF-PINT.
OR THE GOOD-FOR-NOTHING BUTTERBALL.
...WHY ISN'T KIBA ON THE LIST?

THIS GUY ISN'T EDIBLE, THAT'S WHY.

ARE YOU ACTUALLY BUYING THE HUMANS' RUMORS?
NOBODY MENTIONED IT BEING THE "LUNAR FLOWER."
...

TH-THE BLIZZARD'S LET UP, SO LET'S GET GOING.
REMEMBER, IN A TOWN WE PASSED BY,
SOMEONE SAID THERE'S A HUMAN WHO LOOKS AFTER THE "HOLY FLOWER" IN A VILLAGE AHEAD
THAT'S RIGHT.
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET SOME FOOD THERE

BUT THAT ARISTOCRAT GUY TOOK AWAY THE FLOWER MAIDEN, OUR ONLY CLUE.
...IF WE DON'T KNOW WE'LL HAVE TO CONFIRM IT WITH OUR OWN EYES.

THERE IS SOME-THING.
...MY BLOOD'S RUSHING.
OVER THERE,
IN THAT PLACE,

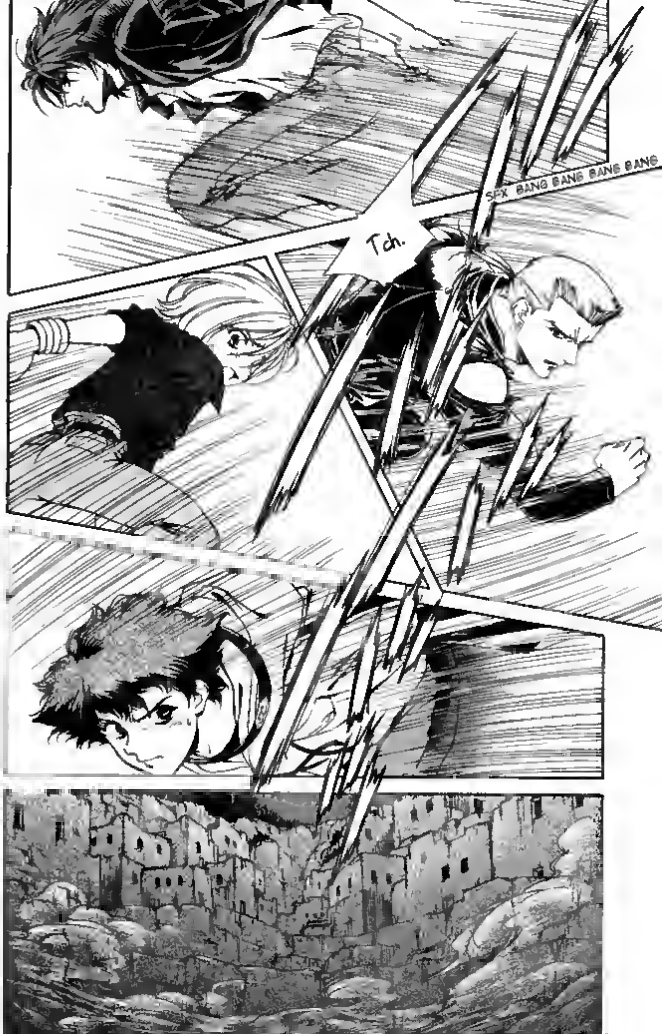
Whatever
Food, food

IS IT... THERE?
THOUGH I SENSE HUMAN PRESENCE,
HIGE, WHAT DO YOU SMELL?
HMM...

...?
SOME-THING, EH...
Hmph.
Rustle

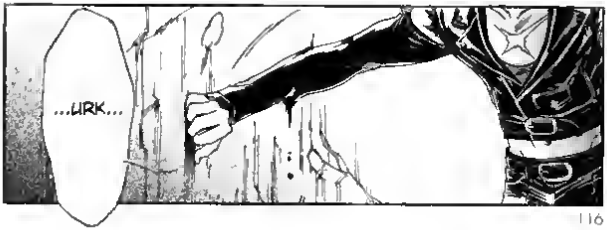
I DON'T SMELL ANY FLOWER... BUT THERE'S A FAINT SMELL OF FOOD..
HEH, TALK ABOUT USELESS, THE HUMANS' RUMOR AND YOUR NOSE.
EVEN THE BLOOD RUSH OF A BEATEN GUN.
HMM?
HOLD IT.
THERE'S ALSO
...THE SMELL OF GUNPOWDER.

SFX: TRRT TRRT TRRT TRRT
(GUNSHOTS)


SFX BANG BANG BANG BANG
Tch.

...
INTRUD-
ERS.
INTRUDERS
CALL
FORTH
DISASTERS.
SFX LATCH
DON'T LET
THEM TAKE A
STEP INSIDE.

INTRUD-
ERS...
SHOULD
LEAVE.


...URK...

WHERE DID THAT BRAT GO?
.....
Rustle
HEARING ABOUT THEIR QUEST FOR PARADISE AMAZED ME
WHAT'S CAUSING MY BLOOD TO RUSH...?
PANT
I'VE LOST EVERY-ONE...
WHERE'S TSUME...
PANT
PANT
step
WHO'S THERE?
twitch
...ONE MORE STEP...
...TAKE... EVEN...
...I CAN'T.

...IS SOMEONE THERE?

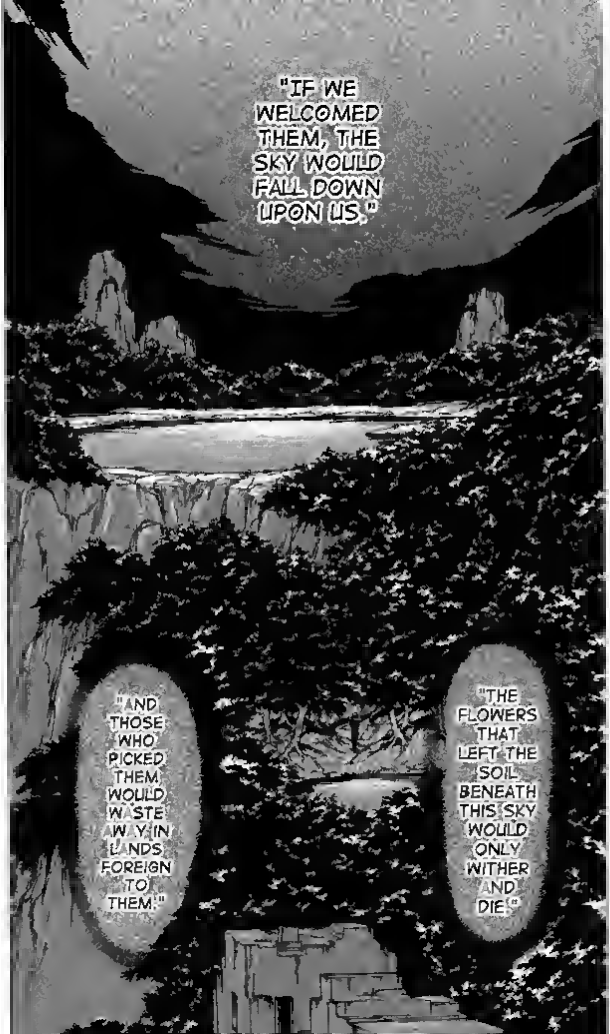
I HEARD THE SOUND OF GUNS JUST NOW
ARE YOU OK?
WERE YOU HURT?
...YOU'RE NOT... FROM THIS VILLAGE, ARE YOU?
I'M... I'M OK. LOOK, I CAN STAND
SHH, KEEP YOUR VOICE LOW.
THIS WAY
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
THE NORTH.
IT'S OK.
JUST A FEW SCRATCHES.
I'M SORRY
I ONLY HAVE THIS MUCH HERBS
HOW ABOUT BAN-DAGES?

THERE'S A TOWN.. UP NORTH?
...THE NORTH?
...
WE STOPPED BY A LOT OF TOWNS ON THE WAY..
IT'S MY FIRST TIME TRAVELING THIS FAR.
YEAH.
WAY, WAY UP
..I'D BEEN LIVING WITH A HUMAN..
I MEAN, MY GRANDMA, ALL THIS TIME, BUT...
.. SHE PASSED AWAY.
AND YOUR FAMILY?
NUH-UH.
EH?
.. THERE ARE OTHER TOWNS STILL .. BESIDES THIS ONE...

AH, ANYWAY,
I'VE GOT FRIENDS WITH ME NOW.
THOUGH I'VE LOST TRACK OF THEM.
WHAT ABOUT YOU? LIVING HERE...
...
...
THIS.. WAS GIVEN TO ME BY MY GRANDMA ...
SEE
THAT SAPLING OVER THERE?
THAT'S
MY MOTHER'S MEMENTO.
OH..ARE YOU... BY ANY CHANCE... ON YOUR OWN?
..THAT FLOWER
WAS BLOOMING ON THE DIVINE HILL...
THE FLOWER
WAS ON THE DIVINE...?

AND THE LEGEND SAYING "DIVINE HOISTED THE SKY" LINGERS.
DIVINE FOOTPRINTS...
THEY REMAIN ON TOP OF THAT HILL.
Drip
THE FLOWERS BLOOMED ON A FIELD NEXT TO THEM...
HOWEVER,
MOST OF THEM WERE PLUCKED BY PEOPLE WHO CAME FROM FOREIGN SOILS

BECAUSE OF THAT, A SERIES OF MISFORTUNES HAS BEFALLEN THIS PLACE.
"THE VILLAGERS HAVE COME TO REFUSE THE ADMISSION OF VISITORS."
"DON'T LET OUTSIDERS IN."


"IF WE WELCOMED THEM, THE SKY WOULD FALL DOWN UPON US."
"AND THOSE WHO PICKED THEM WOULD WASTE AWAY IN LANDS FOREIGN TO THEM."
"THE FLOWERS THAT LEFT THE SOIL BENEATH THIS SKY WOULD ONLY WITHER AND DIE."

MY WHOLE FAMILY WATCH OVER THESE FLOWERS
THIS ONE LAST SAPLING--
WE'VE BEEN PROTECTING IT EVER SINCE, FROM GETTING STOLEN.
FROM SHRIVELING UP.
WHILE WAITING FOR A FULL MOON NIGHT FOR THE FLOWER TO BLOOM IN ITS FULL GLORY.
FULL MOON
YES, BUT
I HAVE YET TO SEE IT.
.. IS THIS THE ONE ..?
THE LUNAR FLOWER?
KIBA MIGHT KNOW IF I SHOWED IT TO HIM.
... EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE IS BEING PARANOID AND HARDLY LEAVES THE HOUSE
LET ALONE LEAVING THIS VILLAGE.
BUT I ALWAYS SNEAK OUT, TO GIVE THE FLOWER
THE WATER FROM THE HILL, OR TO BATHE IT IN THE MOONLIGHT
OTHERWISE,
THE FLOWER MIGHT WITHER IN A DARK ROOM LIKE THIS
...
IT...
MIGHT NOT BLOOM AGAIN, THOUGH

...IT WILL.
... HUH?
...SINCE IT'S IN SUCH GOOD HANDS.
...
... YEAH ...
...I'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOLD... THAT OUTSIDE THIS VILLAGE ... NOBODY... NOTHING REMAINS... ...YET,
THERE ARE TOWNS IN THE DISTANCE
MY GUESS IS THE PICKED FLOWERS DON'T DRY UP EITHER?
I'M SURE WHEREVER THEY ARE
YEAH, MUST BE.

TOBOE.
YOU?
JUST LIKE
WOLVES, STILL BRE-TH-ING HERE.
JUST LIKE US SURVIVING IN THIS PLACE.
...WHAT IS... YOUR NAME?
I'M GLAD...
THAT EVERYTHING'S JUST A SUPERSTITION
...THE FLOWERS HAVE GOT TO BE ALIVE.
...UGH.
I SMELL DANGER ALL OVER THE VILLAGE... BUT,

CLATTER
I CAN ALSO MAKE OUT THE SMELL OF FOOD.
LIKE THEY SAY, "NEAR IS MY SHIRT,
SFX: TRRT TRRT TRRT TRRT
YIKES!
...An intruder...
SFX: SHIVER
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS PLACE?
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO KIBA AND THE REST?
...TSUME PROBABLY ALREADY LEFT...
AH
BETTER USE MY WOLF FORM TO RUN.
WOULD IT BE MORE DANGEROUS?

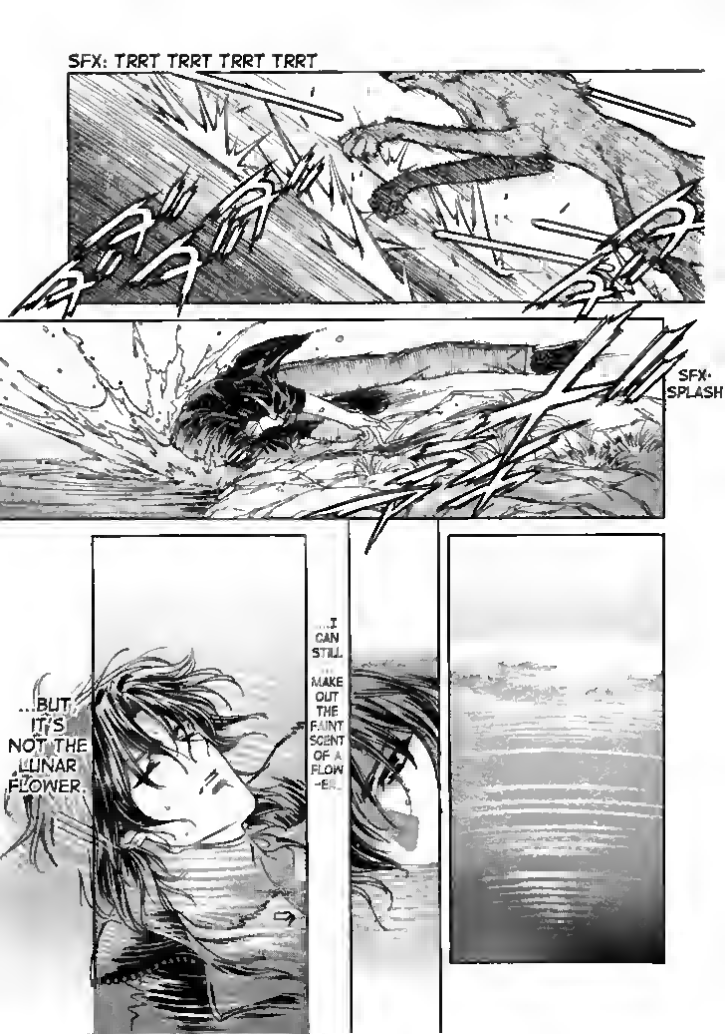
SFX: TRRT TRRT TRRT (GUNS)
FOOLS.
COMING TO THIS VILLAGE HAS BEEN POINTLESS.
ANYHOW,
THE PARADISE IS SIMPLY GOSSIP WITH NO FOUNDATION WHATSOEVER
HANGING OUT WITH THEM TO MAKE A FOOL OF MYSELF--- ENDS HERE

I AM,
THOUGH I'M NOT SURE WHERE IT IS.
..SO, TOBOE,
YOU'RE HEADED SOME-WHERE?

...
JUST HOLY... SACRED FLOWER IS ALL...
TIA,
WHAT'S THE NAME OF THIS FLOWER?
...?

IN THE PARADISE WE'RE HEADED TO,
FLOWERS CALLED LUNAR FLOWERS BLOOM IN ONE WHOLE FIELD
I DON'T KNOW IF THIS FLOWER OF YOURS IS A LUNAR FLOWER, TIA.
BUT I'M SURE IT BLOOMS IN GREAT NUMBERS IN PARA-DISE
...PARA-DISE...
WOULD IT BLOOM THE NEXT FULL MOON?!
I'D LOVE TO SEE IT THEN.
Chuckle
WOULD YOU STAY HERE UNTIL IT DOES?
EH?!
I CAN STAY?
YES
I'D LOVE TO SEE IT...
BLOOM AS WELL, TOGETHER WITH YOU, TOBOE...

SFX: TRRT TRRT
SFX: TRRT TRRT TRRT TRRT TRRT
Urk
SFX: LATCH


SFX: TRRT TRRT TRRT TRRT
SFX: SPLASH
...I CAN STILL...
...MAKE OUT THE FAINT SCENT OF A FLOW-E...
...BUT IT'S NOT THE LUNAR FLOWER.

WILL WE...
CONTINUE TO BE...
MISLED BY
FAKE FLOWERS ...?

"DON'T LET
OUTSIDERS IN.
IF WE WELCOMED THEM,
THE SKY WILL FALL DOWN UPON US."
...THE LUNAR FLOWER...
THE FLOWER... MAIDEN.

SFX: WHOOSH
CHEZA!

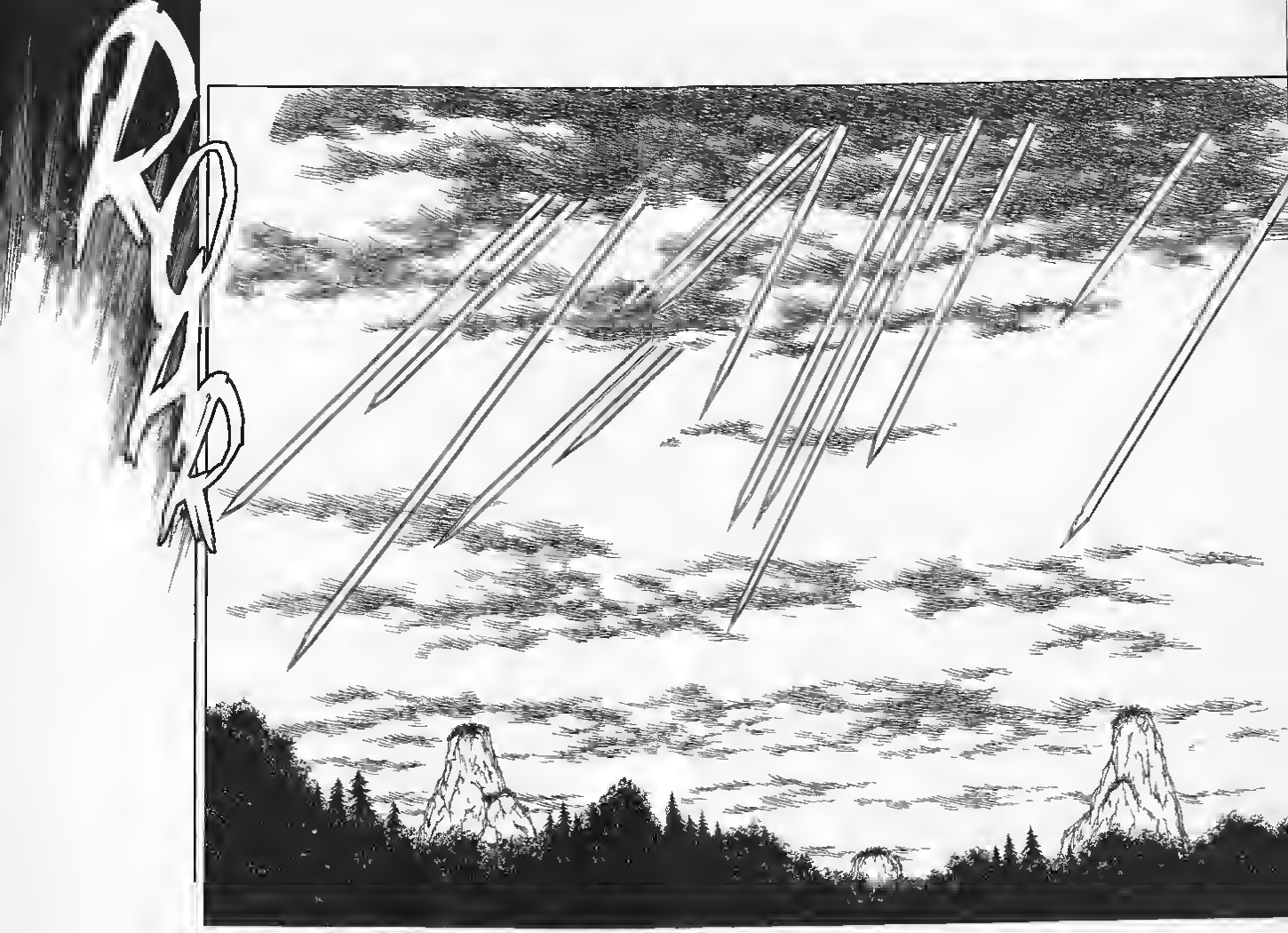
grope.5

THEY'VE COME TO STEAL YOU BACK.
YOU ARE THE KEY TO PARA-DISE...
...HAVE THEY ARRIVED?
THE ONES WHO ARE DRAWN BY PARADISE...
...BUT...
I WON'T GIVE YOU UP THAT EASILY.
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
CHEZA.
SOON...
WE'LL RETURN TO WHERE YOU WERE BORN.

...WHAT THE-
IT'S A FLYING SHIP!
IT MUST BE THE NOBLES.
...I DON'T LIKE THAT SOUND ...
IT'S COMING CLOSER ...
WHAT'S WRONG, TOBOE?
NAH
IT'S NOTHING.
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
TIA?!
TIA !!

TIA.
IS SOMEONE IN THERE WITH YOU!?
YOU WOULDN'T BE...
...HIDING AN OUTSIDER, NOW WOULD YOU?
...TI-TIA...
WE'LL GO THROUGH THE BACK DOOR AND HEAD FOR THE HILL.
WE CAN'T RELAX AND ENJOY OUR FOOD HERE.
KNOCK
I'M SORRY, BUT...
YOUR GUEST MUST LEAVE HERE IMMEDIATELY.

OUTSIDERS BRING DISASTER
TIA.
DID YOU FORGET...
...OUR VILLAGE'S RULE?
YOUR MOTHER...
...DIED FROM DISEASE WHEN SHE WAS VERY YOUNG.
...AND SHE LEFT YOU ALL ALONE.
SHE...
...DIED BECAUSE SHE LET AN OUTSIDER COME IN.
"DON'T LET THEM GET IN."
DO YOU...
"IF WE LET THEM IN..."
...WANT THAT TO HAPPEN TO YOU, TOO?
EVERYTHING WILL BE...


RIP

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

ROAR
BOOM
HUH...
THE-THE SKY IS...
...FALL-ING...!!
CLAM
...
BOOM
BOOM
THE FOREST IS...
SOME-THING IS HAPPEN-ING... IN THE SKY...
...IT'S ...
CLICK
IT'S YOUR FAULT.

TIA.
GET AWAY FROM HIM.
THIS IS OUR SACRED LAND.
WE CAN'T ALLOW ANY-ONE...
...TO SOIL OUR SACRED LAND.
...NOT EVEN A KID.
!!
SOME-BODY ...
COME QUICK! A WILD DOG IS...

BRAM!!
BRAM!!
GRRR
HIGE!!
STOP HIM. DON'T LET IT GET AWAY!
IT'S NOT JUST THE KID. THERE'S A BEAST TOO.
SH-
ROAR
CHARGE
CHARGE
THIS WAY!
...THIS- THIS IS THE END.
THIS IS THE END... OF OUR VILLAGE.

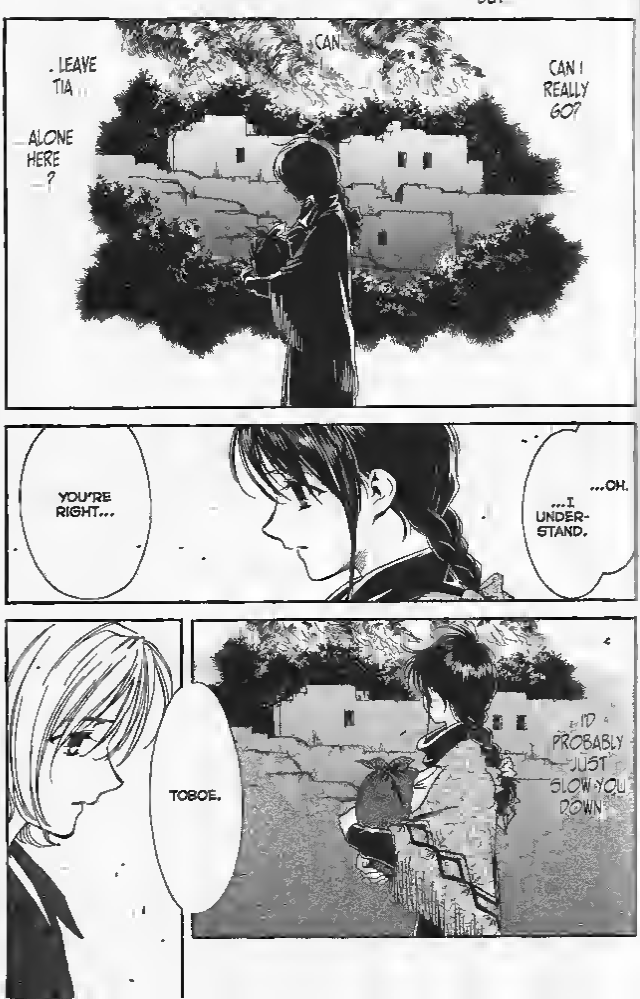
I'M SORRY.
IT'S MY FAULT THE VILLAGERS...
! CAN'T STAY HERE.
TIA.
I'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE.
WHY... ... SHOULD YOU APOLOGIZE, TOBOE?
HOW WEAK...
THEY ARE
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE.
...FOR LETTING THIS HAPPEN TO YOU.
YOU DIDN'T ...
...DO ANYTHING WRONG, TOBOE.
...BY KEEPING OTHER RACES OUT.
THEY'VE TRIED TO MAKE THEIR OWN LITTLE PARADISE...
THIS PLACE THAT'S SO FRAGILE AND EASILY DESTROYED
THIS PLACE WHERE OUTSIDERS ARE BLAMED FOR EVERYTHING.
IS THIS IT?
PARADISE?

ROAR
...!
...TO PARADISE.
CAN I... COME WITH YOU.
ROAR
... TOBOE.
COULD THIS ISOLATED VILLAGE REALLY BE PARADISE?
RUUUU
KRAK
RUUUU
RUUUU
IF I GET HIT...
...BY THIS WALL OF BULLETS, THERE WON'T BE ANYTHING LEFT OF ME.
THE NOBLE ...
...IS REALLY POURING IT ON.

ROAR
...DID YOUR "FEELING" HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS LITTLE PLACE TURNING INTO A HELLHOLE?
...SO ...
IF I WERE TO RELY ON YOUR "FEELING" ...
I WOULDN'T MAKE IT TO PARADISE EVEN IF I HAD MANY LIVES.
IF...
...THERE EVEN IS A PARADISE.

IF YOU LIVE IN CONSTANT FEAR OF DEATH ...
...WITHOUT EVEN HAVING A DREAM ...
YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE DEAD.
FLUTTER
NO BODY HAS EVER SEEN HIM SO I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS
CRIP
CRIP
CRIP
...TOBOE.

...I'M SORRY.
I CAN'T ...
...TAKE YOU WITH ME.
IT'S A VERY ...
...TREACH-EROUS JOURNEY.
I COULDN'T TAKE HER WITH ME
...SEARCHING FOR A PARADISE WE MAY NEVER FIND.
WALK-ING...
...ON AND ON...
...AND ON...
HERE JUST MOVES ...
WE GO DAYS WITHOUT EATING.


BUT...
CAN I...
CAN I REALLY GO?
...LEAVE TIA...
...ALONE HERE...?
YOU'RE RIGHT...
...OH.
...I UNDER-STAND.
TOBOE.
I'D PROBABLY JUST SLOW YOU DOWN.

I'M ...
...LEAV-ING THIS VILLAGE.
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR...
...MY OWN PARA-DISE.
SO THIS FLOWER CAN BLOOM SOMEDAY.
...B-BUT ...ALL BY YOUR-SELF...?
...I'VE BEEN THINK-ING...
...THAT MAYBE THE REASON THIS FLOWER WON'T BLOOM ...
...IS THAT THIS VILLAGE'S SOIL...
...ISN'T FERTILE ENOUGH.
MY MOTHER WAS STUCK...
...IN THIS TINY LITTLE VILLAGE.
ALL SHE DID WAS THINK ABOUT THE FLOWER.
EVENTUALLY SHE ISOLATED HER HEART FROM EVERYTHING ELSE...

BUT -!
YOU TAUGHT ME, TOBOE ...
...THAT THERE ARE OTHER VILLAGES.
AND THAT PEOPLE ARE ALIVE IN FAR AWAY LANDS.
I'M SURE THE FLOWER WILL BLOOM SOME-WHERE.
THANKS, TOBOE ...
...FOR GIVING ME SUCH STRONG COURAGE.
...TIA ...
...GO.
YOUR FRIENDS -
YOUR FRIENDS ARE WAITING FOR YOU.

IS IT THAT HARD FOR YOU TO LEAVE A HUMAN BEHIND?
...WHAT THE HELL?
THEN WHY DON'T YOU JUST STAY BEHIND?
WE'LL MEET AGAIN SOMEDAY WON'T WE?
YEAH. SOMEDAY ALONG OUR JOURNEY
I'M FINE.

I'M FINE.
WE'LL MEET AGAIN
SOME-DAY
FLY
PYUU
PYUU
PYUU

HUU
PYUU
PYUU
PYUU
BRA
BUT I KNOW.
..DON'T KNOW HOW I KNOW.
SHE'S THERE
CRIP
CRIP
CRASH
SCREEN

CHEZA!
CLINK
CHEZA!
SPLAT

...UH!
BOOM
...STOP!

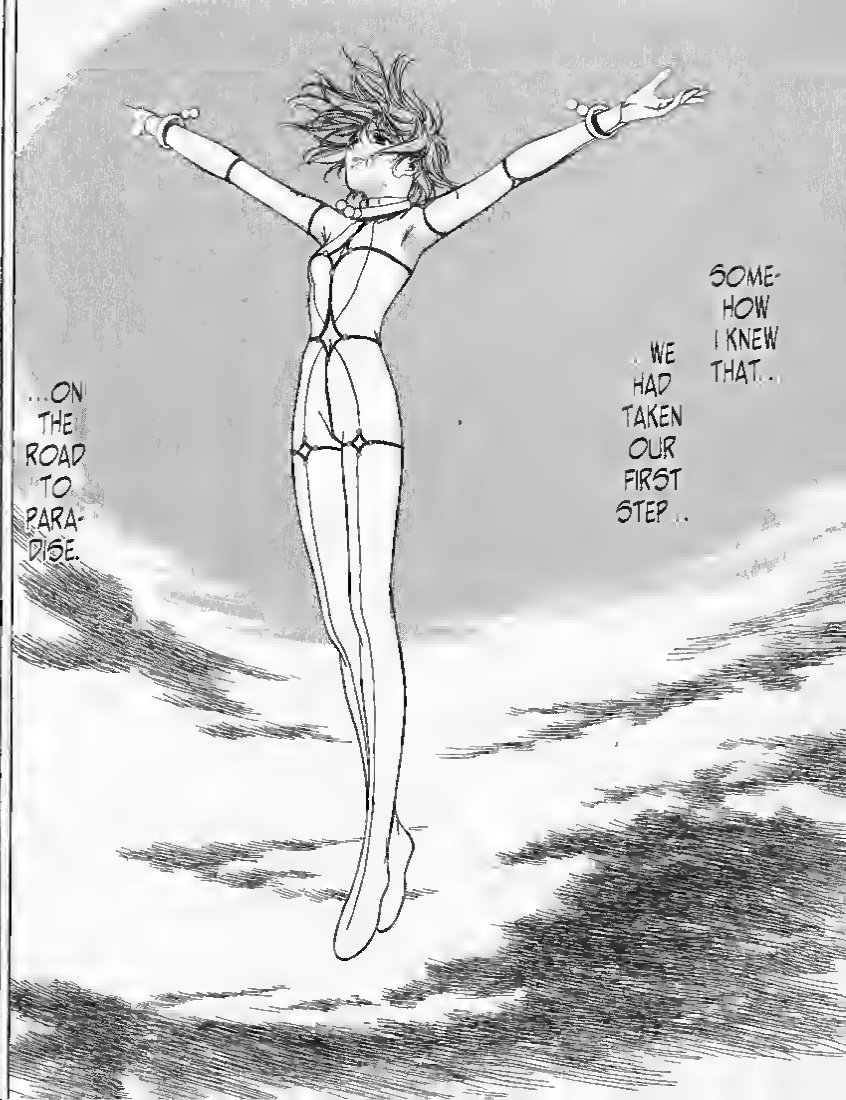
WE WERE ONCE SEPARATED, BUT...
HEY! TSUME!
NOW WE MEET AGAIN HERE.
WHERE IS KIBA?
YOU CAN'T REALLY CALL US FRIENDS
EACH OF US IS VERY DIFFERENT.
I DON'T KNOW.
HE'S STILL FOLLOWING HIS "FEELING."
ANYWAY ...
...IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO STICK AROUND HERE.
BUT
EVEN IF THE SKY FELL IN ON US
EVEN IF GOD'S PATH WERE LOST

WE'RE ALL SEARCHING FOR THE SAME THING.
I'D LIKE TO BELIEVE THAT.
EVEN IF WE HAD TO FORGE OUR OWN PATHS

!?
THAT SCENT ...
THE SCENT OF THE LUNAR FLOWER...

...WHAT'S THAT!?
SOMETHING IS FALLING
I NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHAT...
THAT'S DEFINITELY HER. THE LUNAR FLOWER MAIDEN.
IT'S CHEZA.
...KIBA'S FEELING MEANT, BUT...
CHEZA?
...THAT'S HER...?
WHEN I SAW CHEZA...

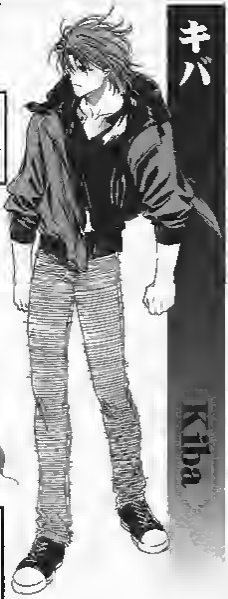
WOLF'S RAIN VOL. 1 END



I'M THE ARTIST OF THE WOLF'S RAIN'S COMIC, TOSHITSUGU IIDA. THIS TIME, I'M GOING TO LAY OUT THE PROCESS USED TO DESIGN THE CHARACTERS IN THIS MANGA VERSION. PLEASE ENJOY EACH ONE WITH LOVE.

KIBA

IT'S HARD FOR ME TO DRAW HANDSOME GUYS. (LAUGHS) I DREW KIBA BASED ON THE CHARACTER DESIGNS, AND IMMEDIATELY SHOWED IT TO BONES. IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE MUCH OF A MAIN CHARACTER... WHY DID BONES GIVE IT THE OKAY? LATER, WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT KIBA WAS THE WHITE WOLF, I FAINTED.



TSUME

HE LOOKS MORE MACHO HERE THAN IN THE BOOK. (LAUGHS) HE WEARS LEATHER FROM HEAD TO TOE. SO WE KNEW FROM THE BEGINNING THAT HE'D LOOK GOOD IN BLACK AND WHITE. ...BUT IT'S HARD TO DRAW HIS ALMOND SHAPED EYES... AND I'D NEVER DRAWN EYELASHES ON A MAN BEFORE.

HIGE

WHEN I SAW HIGE MOVING AROUND IN COLOR, HE LOOKED EXACTLY AS I'D IMAGINED HIM. BUT HE WAS ALMOST TOO BRIGHT TO BE DONE IN BLACK AND WHITE. (LAUGHS) SO I HAD TO USE A CAREFUL BALANCE OF BLACK AND WHITE.

ヒゲ

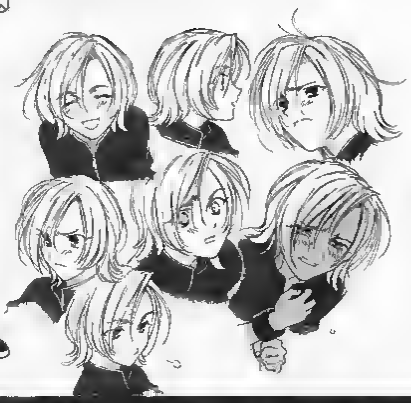
Hige

TOBOE

UNTIL I READ THE SCRIPT, I THOUGHT HE WAS A GIRL. SNIFFLE SNIFF (=WHY (LAUGHS)) I MAYBE THAT WAS BECAUSE THE DESIGNS I GOT FROM KAWAMOTO AT THE TIME WERE ROUGH DRAFTS. AND TOBOE WAS DRESSED DIFFERENTLY. I MADE HIS HAIR WHITE TO BALANCE OUT THE COLOR, BUT IF YOU LOVE HIM ENOUGH TO LOOK VERY CLOSELY, YOU CAN TELL THAT IT'S ACTUALLY LIGHT BROWN. (PRATFALLS)

トオボエ

Toboe



チェザ Cheza

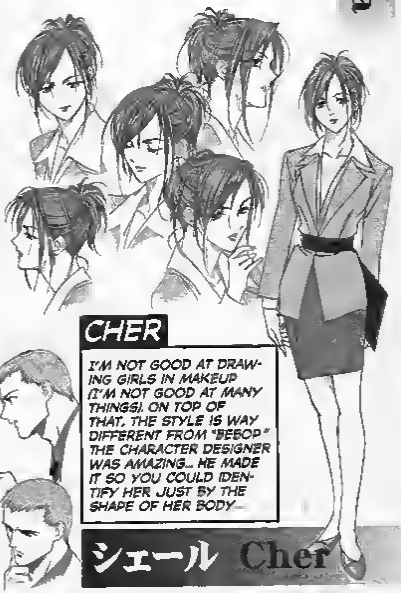
CHEZA

CHEZA LOOKED THE MOST SHOCKING IN COLOR. HER-HER-HER EYES... DIRECTOR OKAMURA TOLD ME, "YOU COULD DRAW HER EYES NORMALLY IN THE MANGA," SO I DID. HOWEVER, SHE'S BLIND, SO I DID MY BEST TO CONVEY ,, THAT ..BUT ..

ハブ Hubb

HUBB

I'M NOT GOOD AT DRAWING ADULTS. CHER AND HUBB ARE BOTH COLORED VERY WELL IN THE ANIME. MANGA IS BLACK AND WHITE, SO I HAD TO CHANGE THEIR OUTFITS.



CHER

I'M NOT GOOD AT DRAWING GIRLS IN MAKEUP (I'M NOT GOOD AT MANY THINGS). ON TOP OF THAT, THE STYLE IS WAY DIFFERENT FROM "BEBOP." THE CHARACTER DESIGNER WAS AMAZING... HE MADE IT SO YOU COULD IDENTIFY HER JUST BY THE SHAPE OF HER BODY...

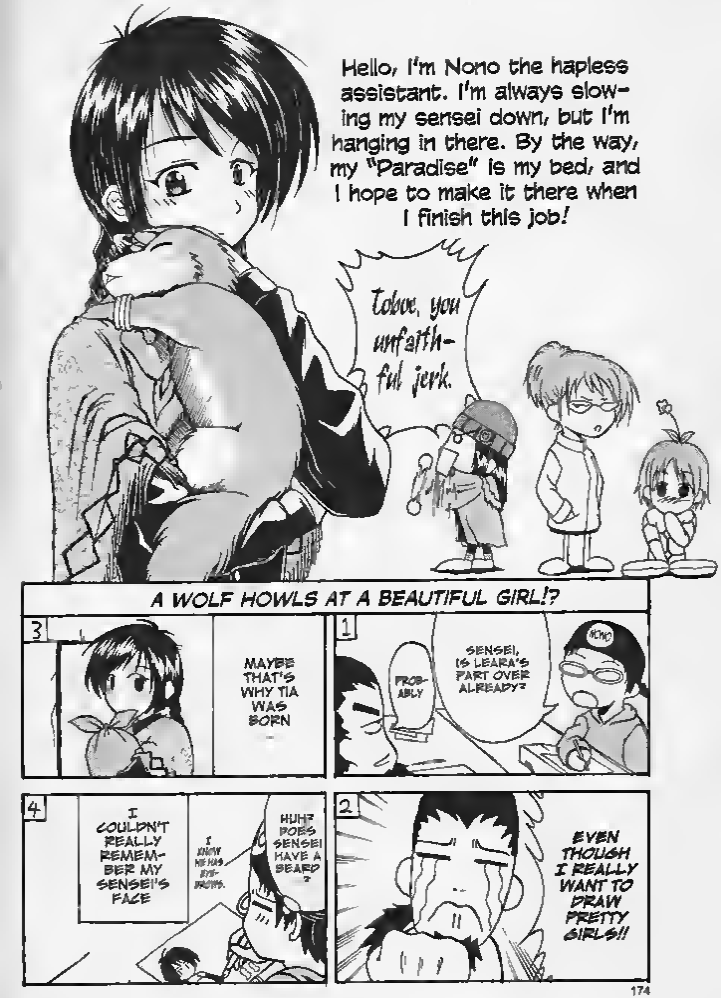
シェール Cher

QUENT

I'M NOT GOOD AT DRAWING EVIL EYES (<--ENOUGH ALREADY!) HE AGED A LOT IN THIS BOOK (LAUGHS) HE HAD WHITE HAIR.

DARCIA

WHEN I SAW THE DESIGN FOR DARCIA, I REALLY WANTED TO DRAW HIM. WE NICKNAMED HIM "GAKU-CHAN" (OR THE PHOENIX). (<--HEY). THIS IS A CHARACTER THAT I COULD NEVER HAVE COME UP WITH


Hello, I'm Nono the hapless assistant. I'm always slowing my sensei down, but I'm hanging in there. By the way, my "Paradise" is my bed, and I hope to make it there when I finish this job!
Tobue, you unfaithful jerk.
A WOLF HOWLS AT A BEAUTIFUL GIRL!?
3
MAYBE THAT'S WHY TIA WAS BORN
1
PROBABLY
SENSEI, IS LEARA'S PART OVER ALREADY?
KNK
4
I COULDN'T REALLY REMEMBER MY SENSEI'S FACE
I KNOW HE HAS EYEBROWS.
HUH? DOES SENSEI HAVE A BEARD?
2
EVEN THOUGH I REALLY WANT TO DRAW PRETTY GIRLS!!

Celebrating the Tankōbon edition

I'm Akira Kubota. I'm the only female (Huh?) working here. I'm going to work hard, so please don't forget about me. (laughs)

"Cheza's outfit is so sexy."...Is
something that I've never ever thought

Thank you for reading *Wolf's Rain!*

Even though the main cast and the setting is the same, you might have noticed that this manga is nevertheless different from the animated television series. Specifically, some scenes and characters only appear in the manga and not the anime (and vice versa). Even the scenes that are the same have different dialogue and sequence of events. (For example, the manga has the wolves going six days without food, but the anime has the wolves arguing after only three.) We've worked with the English translator of the animated version and talked with the original creators at BONES to ensure that the common elements are translated similarly—and the differences are accurately portrayed.

BEHIND THE NAMES

No notes for *Wolf's Rain* would be complete without a Japanese-to-English translation of the wolves' unique names:
Kiba: Fang
Tsume: Claw
Hige: Whisker
Toboe (or *"tôboe"*): Howling

"GROPE, 1"? "GROPE, 2"?

No, it isn't a dirty reference—the Japanese manga creators deliberately called the manga chapters "gropes"—a reference to the Japanese phrase *"tadori tsuku"* (to grope or arrive somewhere after a struggle). The phrase is also used in the manga's opening prologue.

NAMES AND HONORIFICS

In the original Japanese, *Wolf's Rain* all but avoids the honorifics (Japanese words or suffixes such as *–san* or *–dono* that signify respect or familiarity) that you might read or hear in other manga and anime. That's because of the casual tone of most of the characters and the deliberately multicultural atmosphere of the story. There are a couple of rare exceptions: Darcia's servant does call her noble master "Darcia-sama" (Lord Darcia).

WOLF LANGUAGE

You might have noticed unusual phrasing like "run with a pack." The writers at BONES deliberately used phrasing that evoked the wolves' animalistic nature.

FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE

To some readers, this chapter title may sound a lot like a certain other comic locale based in the cold, desolate wilderness. *Wolf's Rain's* Fortress of Solitude is written in Japanese as *"Kodoku no Jôsai."* That other *super*-popular comic's Fortress of Solitude is usually written in Japanese as *"Kodoku no Yôsai."*

NOTES ON THE NOTES

- The manga artist's personal nickname ("Gaku-chan") for Darcia comes from the nickname for Gackt, the famously androgynous Japanese singer with a not-so-basic black sense of dress.
- The manga artist's assistants call him *sensei* (teacher, master, doctor), the normal term of respect for head manga artists from within their own studios.
- *Tankôbon* is the Japanese name for the individual compiled volumes of manga (like the one you're holding now!), as opposed to the short serialized snippets in magazines (like *Monthly Magazine Z*, where *Wolf's Rain* originally ran).
- Finally, the manga artist spells his name two different ways: Toshitsugu Iida and Toshitzg E->da. The original Japanese publisher Kodansha asked us to spell his name as Toshitsugu Iida in our English version.

Thanks again for reading, and keep an eye out for Volume 2, available in January!
—Egan Loo *Editor*